



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

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Region I Advisory No. 2008-1

Subject: Connecting Communities Public Transportation Emergency Preparedness
Workshop

Dear Colleagues:

The Federal Transit Administration is sponsoring a Connecting Communities Public Transportation Emergency Preparedness Workshop on November 28-29 at the Courtyard Boston Hotel, 275 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116. The workshop is free to all invitees, with breakfast and lunch included. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:00am. The program will commence promptly at 8:30am and conclude at 4:30 p.m., each day.

The goal of the Workshop is to bring together participants from a variety of public safety and transportation agencies, departments, and organizations to foster dialogue, review past experiences, analyze best practices, and identify assets and resources to improve overall interoperability and response during an emergency incident.

Based on the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the four phases of the Emergency Management Process, the Connecting Communities Workshop combines instructor-lead presentations with interactive exercises and small-group activities to help participants assess the strengths and weaknesses in their existing plans and identify steps to improve the community's or region's preparedness. We hope that the Workshop will result in improved coordination of the assets and specialized resources of transit and transportation systems with their local, county, and state response and emergency management agencies. Interoperability and maximum resource utilization in the event of a natural disaster, terrorist incident, or other emergency are of the utmost importance for a community or region's effective response.

If you would like to attend this workshop, please complete and submit the application form found at the following web link:

<http://www.connectingcommunities.net/ws.html>.

For more information about this program, please contact: Frank Veneziale, Senior Program Coordinator, National Transit.

Institute, 732-932-1700 ext. 251, or cc@nti.rutgers.edu.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Doyle
Regional Administrator
FTA Region I